

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1-2. (Cancelled).

**3. (Previously Presented)** A cement composition

comprising 100 parts by weight of a cement and

0.05 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles having an average particle diameter of 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  or less as a cement setting accelerator for shortening the initial and final setting times of said cement composition.

**4. (Previously Presented)** A process for manufacturing a cement composition

comprising adding a water slurry of calcium hydroxide particles having an average particle diameter of 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  or less as a cement setting accelerator for shortening the initial and final setting times of said cement composition to a cement.

**5. (Cancelled).**

**6. (Previously Presented)** The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said

calcium hydroxide particles as said cement setting accelerator are in the form of a slurry.

**7. (Previously Presented)** The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said

calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 2  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein 0.1 to 6 parts of weight of said calcium hydroxide particles are present.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The cement composition according to claim 3, further comprising

5 parts by weight or less of calcium aluminate based upon 100 parts by weight of said cement.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The process according to claim 4, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 2  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The process according to claim 4, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 1  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The process according to claim 4, wherein 0.05 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles are added to 100 parts by weight of said cement.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The process according to claim 4, wherein 0.1 to 6 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles are added to 100 parts by weight of said cement.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The process according to claim 13, wherein 5 parts by weight or less of calcium aluminate based upon 100 parts by weight is further added to said 100 parts by weight of cement.

16. **(Cancelled)**

17. **(Previously Presented)** The cement composition according to claim 3, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 1.3  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

18. **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Previously Presented)** The process according to claim 4, wherein said calcium hydroxide particles have an average particle diameter of 1.3  $\mu\text{m}$  or less.

20. **(New)** A cement composition  
comprising 100 parts by weight of a cement and  
a slurry consisting essentially of 0.05 to 10 parts by weight of calcium hydroxide particles having an average particle diameter of 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  or less as a cement setting accelerator for shortening the initial and final setting times of said cement composition.